With European prosperity and Asian peace and security closely connected, the European Union has decided to strengthen its security cooperation in and with Asia. This is also in line with the steps taken by the EU in the past years to strengthen its role as a global security provider.

Europe and Asia share a fundamental interest in upholding the rules-based international system, as well as the view that the challenges the world faces today go beyond national borders and cannot be tackled alone. The EU-Asia security partnership is therefore both desirable and necessary.

### EU-ASIA SECURITY PRIORITIES

- **Maritime Security**
- **Cyber Security**
- **Conflict Prevention**
- **Hybrid Threats**
- **Regional Cooperation**
- **Non-Proliferation of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Weapons**

### EU-ASEAN COOPERATION

The European Union and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have agreed to upgrade their relations to a Strategic Partnership and are strengthening cooperation in a range of security fields. Practical examples include:

- **€26 million** for mitigating chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks
- **€10 million** to support cooperation within the ASEAN Regional Forum to promote multilateral confidence building measures & preventive diplomacy
- **Counterterrorism and military advisors** in EU Delegations in the region

### CASE STUDY: TACKLING PIRACY IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

The EU’s Naval Operation Atalanta (EUNAVFOR) deters, prevents and represses acts of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia and protects UN World Food Programme (WFP) and other vulnerable vessels.

The Republic of Korea routinely contributes in direct support to EU NAVFOR whilst New Zealand has done so in the past. China, India and Japan operate in the area independently and have supported the Operation by protecting WFP vessels upon request of and coordinated by Atalanta. Several joint activities have been conducted, notably with China, India and Japan. Planning is underway for closer interactions with Pakistan.
The EU offers to support peace in Afghanistan by
- helping to make the peace process more inclusive,
- supporting reforms, including of the security sector,
- providing incentives to ex-combatants for re-integration,
- supporting economic development and regional connectivity,
- having the EU as a guarantor of a peace process.

Framework Participation Agreements: enabling our partners to contribute to EU crisis management operations around the world
Consultations on Defence and Security: fostering enhanced cooperation to tackle global challenges
Military-to-Military Engagements: exchanges, discussions and joint exercises between experts, advisors and military

Cyber Security: working for a global, open, stable and secure cyberspace governed by international law
Non-proliferation: to uphold and strengthen all relevant international agreements and cooperation frameworks
Maritime Security: contributing to an open and secure maritime domain

The EU supports peace processes in Asia
The EU witnessed and signed the 2015 and 2018 Nationwide Ceasefire Agreements in Myanmar
The EU supported the peace agreement between the Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement
The EU supports the implementation of the Mindanao Peace Process in the Philippines

Project to enhance Security Cooperation in and with Asia
priority countries: India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Vietnam
€8.5 million for counter-terrorism, cyber security, maritime security, crisis management